

Practitioner's Docket No. LAR 15908-1

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Garnett C. Horner et al, John E. Teter, William E. Robbins, and Benjamin M. Copeland
Application No.: 09/932,872
Filed: August 17, 2001
For: Piezoelectric Composite Device And Method For Making Same

Examiner: J. Aguirrechea
Art Unit: 2834

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that the correspondence detailed below is being transmitted via facsimile to Technology Center 2800, 703-872-9318, Attn: Jaydi A. Aguirrechea, in care of the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date shown below.

Response to Restriction Requirement - 4 pages

3/3/03
Date

Elaine C. McMahon
Elaine C. McMahon

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Responsive to the Office Action mailed February 11, 2003, in which action a requirement for restriction was made under 35 U.S.C. § 121, the Applicants respond as follows:

1. Applicants elect to prosecute claims 22-42 for examination.
2. Applicants withdraw claims 1-21 from consideration.
3. This election is made without traverse.
4. Although claims 1-21 are withdrawn from further consideration as directed to a non-elected invention, the Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application thereon.
5. A summary document with the status of all claims and the text of all pending claims is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt G. Hammerle

Kurt G. Hammerle
Patent Attorney
Reg. No. 36,819
NASA Langley Research Center
Mail Stop 212
Hampton, VA 23681-2199
757-864-2470 (voice)
757-864-9190 (facsimile)
Customer No. 23351

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SUMMARY DOCUMENT SHOWING STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-21 (Withdrawn).

22. (Original) : An apparatus comprising:
a piezoelectric wafer having a first electroded surface and a second electroded side opposite to said first electroded surface;
a first electrically conductive ribbon lead positioned over and in electrical contact with the first electroded surface of the piezoelectric wafer;
a second electrically conductive ribbon lead positioned over and in electrical contact with the second electroded surface of the piezoelectric wafer; and
a layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material, the layer of material surrounding the piezoelectric wafer and the first and second electrically conductive ribbon leads, the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material having a coefficient of thermal expansion that is substantially greater than the coefficient of thermal expansion of the piezoelectric wafer, the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material compressing the piezoelectric wafer to such a degree that the piezoelectric wafer becomes highly flexible.
23. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the first electroded surface comprises a thin surface deposit of nickel.
24. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the second electroded surface comprises a thin surface deposit of nickel.
25. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the first electrically conductive lead is made of nickel.
26. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the second electrically conductive lead is made of nickel.
27. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive film is a thermoplastic polyimide.

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28. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 22 wherein the piezoelectric wafer is made of lead zirconate titanate.

29. (Original) : An apparatus comprising:

a piezoelectric wafer having a first electroded surface and a second electroded side opposite to said first electroded surface;

a first electrically-conductive ribbon lead positioned over and in electrical contact with the first electroded surface of the piezoelectric wafer;

a second electrically-conductive ribbon lead positioned over and in electrical contact with the second electroded surface of the piezoelectric wafer; and

a layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material, the layer of material surrounding the piezoelectric wafer and the first and second electrically conductive ribbon leads, the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material having a coefficient of thermal expansion that is substantially greater than the coefficient of thermal expansion of the piezoelectric wafer, the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material compressing the piezoelectric wafer to such a degree that the piezoelectric wafer becomes capable of being wrapped around a highly curved surface.

30. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the first electroded surface comprises a thin surface deposit of nickel.

31. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the second electroded surface comprises a thin surface deposit of nickel.

32. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the first electrically conductive lead is made of nickel.

33. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the second electrically conductive lead is made of nickel.

34. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive film is a thermoplastic polyimide.

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35. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the piezoelectric wafer is made of lead zirconate titanate.

36. (Original) : An apparatus comprising:
a piezoelectric wafer having a first electroded surface and a second electroded side opposite to said first electroded surface;
a first electrically-conductive ribbon lead positioned over and in electrical contact with the first electroded surface of the piezoelectric wafer;
a second electrically-conductive ribbon lead positioned over and in electrical contact with the second electroded surface of the piezoelectric wafer; and
a layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material, the layer of material surrounding the piezoelectric wafer and the first and second electrically conductive ribbon leads, the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material having a coefficient of thermal expansion that is substantially greater than the coefficient of thermal expansion of the piezoelectric wafer, the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive material compressing the piezoelectric wafer to such a degree that the piezoelectric wafer is capable of being sharply bent.

37. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 37 wherein the first electroded surface comprises a thin surface deposit of nickel.

38. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 37 wherein the second electroded surface comprises a thin surface deposit of nickel.

39. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 37 wherein the first electrically conductive lead is made of nickel.

40. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 37 wherein the second electrically conductive lead is made of nickel.

41. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 37 wherein the layer of curable, electrically non-conductive film is a thermoplastic polyimide.

42. (Original) : The apparatus according to claim 37 wherein the piezoelectric wafer is made of lead zirconate titanate.